

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 20th, 2020



Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church

516 East 13th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503

814.452.6606

www.ststanserie.org

email: ststaner@outlook.com

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor

Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate

Debbie Oldenski, Secretary

Thaddeus Fryczynski, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:00 PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy: Monday - Friday at 8:00AM

Temporary Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:

Saturday at 4:00PM; Sunday at 9:00AM

*** Daily Eucharistic Liturgy remains temporarily Non-Public**

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

2220 Reed Street

Erie, Pennsylvania 16503

814.456.0671

www.holytrinityrc.org

email: parishoffice@holytrinityrc.org

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor

Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate

Mary Ann Merski, Secretary

Jeannie McGinley, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8:00AM

Temporary Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy: Sunday at 10:30AM

*** Daily Eucharistic Liturgy remains temporarily Non-Public**



Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission



September 20, 2020 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

If I work for five hours, I expect to get paid for five hours. If I work for two, I expect to get paid for two. What if we worked for a company that paid everyone the same amount regardless of how long they worked? How would we feel going home with the same pay for working eight hours as my co-worker did for working only two hours? Secular wisdom would have a huge problem with this and a visit to the Labor Board would quickly pursue. But this is God's wisdom and God's ways.

We sometimes think that if we pray more, better, or more fervently and go over and above with the practice of our faith, God will somehow reward us and present us with some kind of merit badge. We are so wrong. Spiritual practices have only one true purpose: to deepen our love for God. In deepening our love for God, we also increase our ability to see God's presence around us, living life more purposefully and contemplatively. What if God chooses to treat someone who has come on the scene of faith later in life the same as someone who has devoted their whole lives to it? Does it really matter? If we have the merit badge notion of faith, we can find ourselves feeling a little arrogant and even jealous of folks who have not followed the same path that we have. We can even see ourselves as the privileged few who have a corner on the faith and fully possess it.

That thinking doesn't square with God. God is all about mercy in abundance and is ready to take anyone to himself regardless of when they come. He is only happy that they have come home and delights in their return. After all, if you really and truly love someone, does it matter what they will give you in return or what you receive as a benefit?

When we breathe our last, all that is of consequence is union with God. If my love for God is real, I am going to want to live the Gospel, abide by the commandments, practice my faith, forgive and love my neighbor, and care for the environment, regardless of how much time it takes or benefits me. We want God to think and behave as we do, and in doing so, we set ourselves up for disappointment. God has a totally different agenda and that's okay.

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/Phil 1:20-27/Mt 20:1-16 [25th Sunday]
Monday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-5/Mt 9:9-13 [St. Matthew]
Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30-35, 44/Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9/Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163/Lk 9:1-6 [St. Pius]
Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11/Ps 90:3-6, 12-17/Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Eccl 3:1-11/Ps 144:1-4/Lk 9:18-22
Saturday: Eccl 11:9-12:8/Ps 90:3-6, 12-17/Lk 9:43-45 [Sts. Cosmas & Damian]
Next Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-9/Phil 2:1-11/Mt 21:28-32 [26th Sunday]

Sacrament of Baptism: Sacramental preparation is required of the parents who desire to share the Catholic faith with their children and are held monthly throughout the City of Erie. Call the parish office to register to schedule your preparation. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics with a letter of recommendation from their pastor to serve as a sacramental sponsor.

Religious Education, First Holy Communion, and First Reconciliation programs are hosted at Saint Luke's Church for all eastside Erie parishes. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.7105).

Confirmation preparation for all eastside Erie parishes is hosted at Saint John's Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.454.2873).

Sacrament of Holy Orders: God calls all people to holiness. Some men are called to fulfill this vocation as priests. If you are interested in the priesthood, or have questions about it, please contact a parish priest or our Diocesan Vocation Director, Fr. Michael Polenik, at 1.800.374.3723.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Before a date can be scheduled, a priest must be contacted at least six months in advance to complete the required documents.

Sacrament of the Sick: Communal celebrations of Anointing the Sick are scheduled periodically. The sacrament can also be requested by any parishioner who is seriously ill or in danger of death. *Please note:* Federal law no longer permits hospitals or nursing homes to contact churches when a parishioner is admitted. It is important that family members notify the parish office if a loved one needs a visit, desires to receive Holy Communion, or needs to be Anointed.

Leave A Legacy: Consider Saint Stanislaus and Holy Trinity as you meet with your attorney or financial planner regarding your estate planning. Remember the needs of your parish family and leave a legacy of faith for future generations with your generous remembrance.

Bulletin Information Deadline: Please submit information to be included in the weekend bulletin by noon the Monday prior. Holiday bulletin announcements must be received by the parish office two weeks in advance.

*Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity
Partners in Faith & Mission*

“PRAYER, CARE, AND CONCERN” MINISTRY

Those who participate in this ministry express the care and concern of our entire parish community to those who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing facilities, through birthday and holiday cards, visits, and prayers. To request prayers, or to participate in this ministry, contact Rose Marie at 814.923.4438.

“PRAYERLINE” MINISTRY

These ministers devote themselves to prayer for any needs made known to them and any special intentions. To participate in this ministry, or to request prayers for a particular need, contact Kay (825-7328) or Shirley (452-3395) from Saint Stanislaus, or Kathy Benes (898-1091) or Kathy Smith (392-8974) from Holy Trinity.

PCEP (Parish Catholic Education Program)

Parishioners of Holy Trinity can receive a parish grant to assist with the cost of tuition for families who wish their primary or secondary school age children to have a Catholic education. To be eligible, families must participate in the program, attend Mass regularly, and be involved in the parish community. For more information, contact the parish office.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Parishioners interested in serving our worshipping community as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, or music minister, please let one of your priests know.

“PRAYER SHAWL” MINISTRY

The enjoyment of knitting, crocheting, and sewing are uniquely combined with prayer to offer a deeply personal and meaningful spiritual ministry. Shawls are prayerfully made and freely given away to those suffering bereavement, those recovering from illness, the elderly, homebound, and those in nursing facilities. To join us in this ministry, please contact Linda at 814.864.8476.

THE “ZABAWA COMMITTEE”

Held on the parish grounds of Holy Trinity, Zabawa is the largest Polish heritage celebration in the region, drawing tens of thousands of people to our neighborhood. The Zabawa Committee organizes the festival through food preparation, donation solicitation, food and beverage service, and so on. The committee always welcomes any help they receive. If you would like to offer your time, and experience hands-on learning about these rich cultural traditions, contact Ray Luniewski at 882-1032.

PROLIFE COMMUNITY

This ministry advocates through for the protection of all human life from conception until natural death through prayer, education, and action.

ST. STANISLAUS / HOLY TRINITY INITIAL PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

(please circle which parish)

Family Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Please Check: New Registration Change of Address Change of Telephone Number

Change of E-mail Moving out of Parish Want Envelopes

*Place in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our Census Form.
Welcome to our Parish Family!*

A Community of Faith Built on Tradition, Where Everyone is Welcome

Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Sept. 21st - The Kinsel & Winslow Families (Family)
 Tues., Sept. 22nd - Rita Przepierski (Marie)
 Wed., Sept. 23rd - Walter, Florence, & Joan R zodkiewicz (Family)
 Thurs., Sept. 24th - Jaworski & Pituch Families (Family)
 Fri., Sept. 25th - Don Holl (Family)
 Sat., Sept. 26th, 4:00PM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (Pro Populo)
 Sun., Sept. 27th, 9:00AM - Rose Ragen (St. Stanislaus Choir)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

POLISH FOOD EXTRAVAGANZA
Take-Out Dinner
OCTOBER 11, 2020
11:30AM - 5:00PM

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Michael Alund & Karolina Czarnecka
 Alan Muir & Hannah Kitcey



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **RICHARD RZODKIEWICZ** as gifted by Diane & Rich Valahovic.

WHAT ARE THE BANNS OF MARRIAGE?

The banns of marriage are the public announcement in a Catholic parish church of an impending marriage between two specified persons. The purpose of banns is to enable anyone to raise any canonical or civil legal impediment to the marriage, so as to prevent marriages that are invalid. Impediments vary between legal jurisdictions, but would normally include a pre-existing marriage that has been neither dissolved nor annulled, a vow of celibacy, lack of consent, or the couple's being related within the prohibited degrees of kinship.

SCRIP CARDS

Even during the pandemic, we have still be filling SCRIP CARD orders. If you are interested in purchasing them, simply contact the Parish Office.

STEWARDSHIP BULLETIN REFLECTION

Though we can never fully grasp the infinite perfection of God and His ways, a basic knowledge of Scripture reveals that God's logic often differs from worldly logic. Our first reading, from Isaiah, reminds us that God often thinks bigger than we do. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts." As His followers we must strive as best we can to think as God does, using our time (and our talents and treasure, too) with eternity in mind. In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus offers us a glimpse of the "Godly logic" of the Father through a parable of a landowner hiring workers for his vineyard. Some workers are called early in the day, others not until very late. Yet the landowner pays them all a full day's wage. This angered the laborers who had worked longest. But those laborers were relying on human logic and human calculations. They were not thinking as God does. This can happen to us Christian stewards as well. We can grumble and complain (at least internally) when we compare ourselves to others and sense that not everyone is contributing as much as we are to the parish, the neighborhood, within our family and so on. At those moments, we need to think bigger! We must remember that it is a great privilege to have been called by the Father to work in His vineyard. Living the stewardship way of life brings us meaning, depth and purpose. Let's embrace this Godly thinking and thank Him for calling us to this way of life.

NOVEMBER LOTTERY RAFFLE

The Holy Name Society is, once again, sponsoring a November Lottery Raffle, based on the PA Daily Number. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased from any Holy Name member or at the parish office.

CSA 2020: UPDATE

Parish Assessment: \$31,019.00
 Pledges: \$34,185.00
 Paid To Date: \$30,510.00

Thank you for the 89 families who have committed! Any additional CSA money remains in our parish. So, if you haven't yet pledged, please continue to prayerfully consider doing so.

WEEKLY OFFERING (SEPTEMBER 13, 2020)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$45,716.00
Amount Received	\$1,206.00	\$28,034.00
Net over/under	(\$2,950.00)	(\$17,682.00)

Mass Attendance: 35 at 4:00PM
 44 at 9:00AM



Holy Trinity Parish Community

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Unable to forgive another means we are holding on to a past wrong and hoping for a better past. That is not going to happen. We must move on with our life by accepting we were unjustly treated and it will not be corrected. We aren't condoning the injustice. We just don't let it control our lives any longer. Forgiveness is critical to living a healthy life in the present.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Sept. 21st - Don Benczkowski (Eileen Ropelewski)
 Tues., Sept. 22nd - Frances Conway (Family)
 Wed., Sept. 23rd - Living & Deceased Mothers of Holy Trinity
 Thurs., Sept. 24th - Living & Deceased Fathers of Holy Trinity
 Fri., Sept. 25th - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families
 Sat., Sept. 26th - For the People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)
 Sun., Sept. 27th, 10:30AM - John Figurski (Vee & Kathy Chorazy)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

SATURDAY EVENING MASS

Due to some scheduling conflicts with Fr. Dan's personal calendar, we will resume the Saturday evening Mass at Holy Trinity on **SEPTEMBER 26th**. We will be moving the Mass time to **5:15PM**. The reason we decided to start 15 minutes later than we are accustomed to is in order for one priest to be able to cover Saturday evening at both St. Stanislaus and Holy Trinity (having a 4PM at St. Stan's and a 5PM at Holy Trinity "cuts it close."). We are also going to remain in the Social Hall for the foreseeable future. Fr. Dan and Fr. Jason will return to their alternating weekend schedule in the very near future. Thank you for your patience during these trying and uncertain times!



Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of **FLORENCE KAMINSKI** as gifted by Roger Kaveney.



9/20 – Theresa Ignaczak
 9/21 – Stanley Dubowski
 9/23 – Jane Thiemann
 9/24 – David Czerwinski
 9/25 – Jack Kempisty

Everyone of us *needs a half hour of prayer* each day, except when we are *busy*. Then we need an *hour*.
 – ST. FRANCIS DE SALES –

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Regular Offering: \$2,151.00 (23/145)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$3,000.00	\$33,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,365.00	\$26,015.00
Total Offertory:	\$2,151.00	\$20,521.00
Net (over/under):	(\$214.00)	(\$5,494.00)

CSA UPDATE

Assessment: \$12,425.00
 Pledges: \$24,692.00
 Paid: \$23,502.00
 Families Contributing: 69

The Workers in the Vineyard

"These men who were hired last worked only one hour," they said, "and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day." Matthew 20:12 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 20:1-16



D V O M O N E Y Q K J F E Q L
 R Y H Q P G Y Y V V D B S K P
 E U G V H E H E A V E N U I H
 C S S Z Q N M J N R U N N N O
 E A V I N E Y A R D R S F G U
 I M I D T R I Z V E B M A D R
 V W R S X O U F N P D T I O V
 E O S P M U Q W M E E B R M C
 D R D G B S O K R R T Q E R A
 E K R Y P D M I T H V L U S W
 H E Y V N P H E G E B Q E A A
 O R C A V S Y I C M W G P K L
 N S L H N Q R G U B A R W J K
 U H G S Z L W R U W H I F E G
 G B Z Y G D G T X R E V Q B N

MONEY	HOUR	EQUAL	WORKERS	VINEYARD
LANDOWNER	HEAVEN	GRUMBLE	KINGDOM	GENEROUS
WAGES	HIRED	UNFAIR	RIGHT	RECEIVED

"Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

- Matthew 20:16

News for Our Partnership

SIGN INTERPRETED MASS FOR THE DEAF

A Sign Interpreted Mass for the Deaf is held every Sunday at 11:00 am at St. Joseph/Bread of Life Community Church, 147 West 24 Str., Erie, PA.

COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND

Special thanks to all who have been contributing to our Covid-19 Response fund, which is being used for the purchase of sanitizers, dispensers, and PPE for those volunteering to clean our facilities after each Mass. Whenever you are able, please consider contributing to this fund so we can keep our facilities as safe and virus-free as possible.

45th Annual ERIE CROP Walk

"To feed the hungry" is a work of mercy. Millions of people are hungry throughout our world, our country, our city. YOU CAN HELP ease this hunger, made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic. Participate in the 45th Annual ERIE CROP Walk on Sunday, September 27. Many food pantries and soup kitchens receive grants to aid their work, among them Emmaus Soup Kitchen, St. Patrick's Food Pantry and the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network. For information or to contribute, please call Barbara Roseborough at 814/882-5972. Walk. Give. Change the world!

BLESSED SACRAMENT FALL FESTIVAL

... cash raffle will be online Sunday, September 27th, on their Facebook page, from noon-5PM. Tickets: \$5 each and are available in Blessed Sacrament's Parish Office 8:00-3:30 (1626 W. 26th Street) until Friday, September 25th. \$500 drawing every half hour from 12:30-3:00PM. Other prizes: 3:30PM - \$1,500; 4:00PM - \$2,500; 4:30PM - \$3,000; GRAND PRIZE at 5PM - \$5,000

OCTOBER: RESPECT LIFE MONTH

In recognition of "Respect Life" month, Catholic Charities is reaching out to parishes for support in their efforts to promote the sanctity of human life. In light of the Covid pandemic, collecting baby supplies through their annual "Diaper Drive" is not possible. An alternative way to support their ministry is to make a monetary donation through their website at www.cccas.org.

26th ANNUAL ROSARY MARCH

The World Apostolate of Fatima is hosting its 26th Annual Rosary March on October 11th at 3:00PM. Due to Covid restrictions, the event will be held at Saint Jude's Church (2801 West 6th Street). The event will also be live streamed on www.stjudeapos.org. Bishop Persico will be the featured speaker. For more information, call John Walsh (868.1100).

St. Stanislaus Church ***"Polish Food Extravaganza Day"***

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020

11:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Parish Hall ~ 520 East 13 Street ~ handicap accessible

"POLISH PLATTER" ***TAKE - OUT DINNER***

includes kielbasa ~ golabki ~ pierogi ~ sweet & sour cabbage
mashed potatoes ~ roll & butter

Adults - \$12.00 Children - \$6.00

Frozen Pierogi for sale
1/2 dozen-\$10. 1 dozen-\$20.
Fresh Homemade
Baked Goods for sale!

Grand Raffle
Grand Prize~\$1,250.00
2nd Prize ~ \$500.00
3rd Prize ~ \$250.00

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ST. STANISLAUS PARISH

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

9/21) Darlene Vlahos & Dorothy Mielnik; 9/22) Kathy Wisniewski; 9/23) Heidi Jankowski & Gina Lintelman;
9/24) Len Sebastian, Tom Widomski, & Diane Valahovic; 9/25) Jack Kempisty & Helen Zimmerman;
9/26) Patricia Straub & John Kleiner; 9/27) Sr. Maxine Kaminski & Regina Jaworski

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

9/20) Msgr. Bob Smith; 9/21) Fr. Paul Schill; 9/22) Fr. Michael Ferrick, 9/23) Fr. Bob Manning; 9/24) Fr. Marc Solomon;
9/25) Fr. Zab Amar; 9/26) Fr. Brian Vossler; 9/27) Fr. Thom Brown

Sunday, Sep 20, 2020

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Grow your faith

Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a; Matthew 20:1-16a
"Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near."

Who gave you your first God lessons? On this Catechetical Sunday, we thank family members, preachers, teachers, RCIA teams, and others who brought the Good News to us. We're also grateful for holy ones, like Venerable Mother Theresa Dudzik, who taught by their example. A remarkable seamstress, Dudzik arrived in Chicago at age 21 after the Great Fire of 1871. She took the destitute into her apartment and sewed to earn money to feed them. In time she founded the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago to run homes, schools, day-care centers, and an orphanage. What will your own example teach others?

Monday, Sep 21, 2020

FEAST OF MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

Rise up

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13
"I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."

Nobody likes paying taxes or has warm, fuzzy feelings about the IRS, but it seems tax collectors in Jesus' time had it especially rough—being lumped in with all manner of sinners. That is because tax collectors were Jews who worked for the Romans, the enemy occupiers of Jewish lands, so they were viewed as traitors by their people. Jesus sought them out for salvation anyway and led Matthew to a new position: apostle and evangelist. What does it take to get a promotion like that? Merely "get up and follow Jesus," as Matthew did.

Tuesday, Sep 22, 2020

Trade stressed for blessed

Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13; Luke 8:19-21
"To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD."

Back-to-school September is such a stressful time for families. Add the reality of COVID-19—with parents trying to work from home, kids' schedules often up in the air—and it gets all the messier. Even if you don't have children at home, you probably know people who do and are stressing. How can we all find balance? Honor the sabbath in whatever way you are able, by hitting the pause button—even for a few hours. "Human life has a rhythm of work and rest," says the Catechism of the Catholic Church. "The institution of the Lord's Day helps everyone enjoy adequate rest and leisure to cultivate their familial, cultural, social, and religious lives." Plan ahead for this coming Sunday.

Wednesday, Sep 23, 2020

MEMORIAL OF PIUS OF PIETRELCINA, PRIEST

Listen from the heart

Proverbs 30:5-9; Luke 9:1-6
"He sent them to proclaim the kingdom of God."

Saint Pius of Pietrelcina (1887-1968) is better known by his nickname, Padre Pio. He is said to have borne the stigmata, the wounds of our Lord, for more than 50 years. To be sure, he was a man of prayer and suffering, a Capuchin Franciscan priest who lived in a small Italian friary nearly all of his life. However, the principal reason for his local fame was his ability to listen to those who came seeking his counsel, to "read their hearts" and to offer them the love of God in the sacraments. His frequent message to penitents, "Pray, hope, and don't worry," is a message for us to treasure and savor today.

Thursday, Sep 24, 2020

Find the balance between law and freedom

Ecclesiastes 1:2-11; Luke 9:7-9
"But Herod said, 'Who then is this about whom I hear such things?'"

Today's gospel notes King Herod's interest in Jesus, whom Herod likely saw as a threat. The tension between political power and the moral and religious power of Christianity has been part of the faith since its beginning. In *Dignitatis Humane*, the Vatican II document on religious liberty, the Council "urges everyone, especially those who are charged with the task of educating others, to do their utmost to form people who, on the one hand, will respect the moral order and be obedient to lawful authority, and on the other hand, will be lovers of true freedom." Sounds like a recipe for peace and progress.

Friday, Sep 25, 2020

Keep the faith!

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Luke 9:18-22
"There is... a time for everything under the heavens... a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces."

The coronavirus has taken quite a toll on Catholic parish and sacramental life. Nearly every bishop responding to a recent survey said the pandemic has seriously affected the celebration of the sacraments and rites and sacramental preparation programs in their dioceses. In addition, they report that the morale of priests, lay ecclesial ministers, deacons, and chancery staff has been damaged by the long shutdown, according to a survey out of Georgetown University. People are hurting at all levels of church life because the very thing we thrive on—gathering together—has become problematic and potentially life-threatening. Be patient and work with your local faith community to find safe and creative pastoral responses. And keep faith alive in your own home and heart!

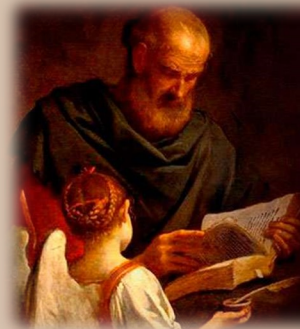
Saturday, Sep 26, 2020

MEMORIAL OF COSMAS AND DAMIAN, MARTYRS

Saints for this season

Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8; Luke 9:43b-45
"Fill us at daybreak with your kindness."

Today's brother physicians are patron saints to a long list of healthcare workers, and also against plagues. A brief year ago, biblical references to plagues and epidemics seemed quaint and far removed. Our eyes have been opened to the enduring force of such outbreaks, however, and Cosmas and Damian truly become saints for our time. Perhaps even more so when we learn they were Arab physicians from the area now called Syria. Healing role models come from all backgrounds. Thank the frontline healthcare workers in your own town. They are likely from diverse backgrounds as well.



ST. MATTHEW
THE APOSTLE

September 21st

